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USSR

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REQUEST TO MEXICO CITY TO TELEGRAPH  
INFORMATION ABOUT MARINA DAVIS.

From: MOSCOW

To: MEXICO CITY

No.: 708

8 December 1944

According to information in our possession Marina DAVIS [DEVIS][i], who is of operational interest to us, used to work in the "COUNTRY's [STRANA]"[ii] embassy in the "COUNTRYSIDE [DEREVNYA]"[iii]. In the "COUNTRYSIDE" she was working for the naval "competitors [KONKURENTY]"[iv] of the "COUNTRY" and allegedly knows you[v] from meetings in [3 groups unrecovered]. If [3 groups unrecovered] this information [.] urgently wire us what you know about her and your impression of her and also [1 group unrecovered] letter of recommendation which [1 group unrecovered] write while passing through the Office [KONTORA] in "TYRE [TIR]"[vi] or "CARTHAGE [KARFAGEN]"[vii] and leave [4 groups unrecovered].[viii]

No. 5713.

Your No. 330[ix]. It is possible to leave "TYRE" by ship for MURMANSK at the end of December this year. The trip will take about one and a half months. *To obtain a berth on the ship get in touch in the official line with Golikov [xi] [3 groups unrecovered] commission in CARTHAGE,*  
[23 groups unrecovered]

[Continued overleaf]

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~~in the CARTHAGE~~

~~there will not be~~ *[12 groups unrecovered] and he will have to put up a case to the Americans to take you on their ship*

No. 5717  
8th December.  
[C%6]

VIKTOR[x]

- Comments: [i] Almost certainly refers to Marion DAVIS, who on 5th December 1944 was reported to have been allotted the covername "LU" by NEW YORK, where she was being cleared through "ZORA" [Flora Don WOVSHIN] prior to being drawn into active work. [S/NBF/T22, Item 6].
- [ii] STRANA: the USA.
- [iii] DEREVNYA: Mexico.
- [iv] KONKURENTY: members of a non-Soviet intelligence organisation.
- [v] "YURIJ" [possibly Lev A. TARASOV] was the MGB resident in MEXICO CITY at this time.
- [vi] TIR: NEW YORK, N.Y.
- [vii] KARFAGEN: WASHINGTON, D.C.
- [viii] On 12th January 1945 NEW YORK informed MOSCOW that "LU" [Marion DAVIS] had received orders from the "KARFAGE" [probably the Office of the Co-Ordinator of Inter-American Affairs] to take up work in CARTHAGE [i.e. WASHINGTON] on 11th January. In view of this, NEW YORK requested MOSCOW to "work out the sending of [C% a letter of recommendation] from YURIJ or sanction signing on LU through ZORA". This was extremely important as LU was beginning work. [S/NBF/T22, Item 9]. It would appear from the present message that YURIJ [the MGB resident in MEXICO CITY] had planned a trip to NEW YORK and WASHINGTON [compare the message to MEXICO CITY from MOSCOW dated 15th November 1944 which implied YURIJ's pending absence from MEXICO CITY - S/NBF/T539], but apparently the trip had still not taken place by 12th January 1945, thus necessitating NEW YORK's request that YURIJ's letter of recommendation [of "LU"] be sent.
- [ix] Not available.
- [x] VIKTOR: probably Lt-General P.M. PITIN.

S/NBF/T545 [xi] GOLIKOV, Peter Alekseevich, was chief of the dept. of marine trans. of the Naval, Marine Trans. Div., Soviet Govt. Purchasing Comm., Wash. D.C. from 1942 to Oct. 1946.